

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 16 through page 13, line 27 with the following amended paragraph:

-- The upper limit of the carbon-dioxide concentration can be determined from a problem of the gas bubbles. The gas-bubble generation is caused by a pressure variance in the water and inclusions of fine gas bubbles in the carbon-dioxide injection unit. In either case, as the carbon-dioxide concentration in the water increases, the gas bubble is likely to generate and its life (or a time period during which a generated gas bubble extinguishes due to diffusion) becomes long. In other words, the gas bubble is unlikely to extinguish and a danger of the influence of the gas bubbles to the exposure increases. FIG. 5 shows the normalized life  $\tau / \tau_0$  of a gas bubble as a function of  $[[C_s / C_\infty]] \underline{C_\infty / C_s}$  as a normalized concentration of dissolved gas (as detailed in C. E. Brennen, "Cavitation and Bubble Dynamics," Oxford University Press (1995), Chapter 2). Here,  $\tau_0$  is the life when  $C_\infty = 0.0$  and  $C_s$  is a saturated concentration. When normalized concentration  $[[C_s / C_\infty]] \underline{C_\infty / C_s}$  is 0.2 or smaller, the life of a gas bubble is close to  $C_\infty = 0.0$  and the gas bubble is likely to extinguish relatively immediately. On the other hand, when normalized concentration  $[[C_s / C_\infty]] \underline{C_\infty / C_s}$  becomes 0.5 or greater, the life of a gas bubble drastically increases and gas bubble is unlikely to extinguish. As a result of this, in order to prevent the influence of the gas bubble to the exposure, the concentration of gas dissolved in the water is preferably 50 % or smaller of the saturated concentration, and more preferably 20 % or smaller of the saturated concentration. The saturated concentration of carbon dioxide in the water is about 1500 ppm in one air pressure. Therefore, in order to prevent the influence of the gas bubbles to the exposure, the carbon-dioxide concentration may be preferably 750 ppm or smaller, more preferably 300 ppm. These values are much greater than the lower limit of the carbon-

dioxide concentration necessary to restrain the static electricity, and it is possible to reconcile the prevention of the gas bubble's influence with the restraint of the static electricity. --